

Meeting Between Black Organisations and the Administration
of Sir George Williams University May 7, 1969.

Statement of position by Black Organisations.

We, the representatives of Black Organisations in Montreal see ourselves primarily invited to an exploratory meeting between the University and ourselves to establish dialogue that must be positively and concretely meaningful to the black Community.

We must state here, unequivocally, that we feel constrained to attend such a meeting, especially at a time when increased and additional charges have been laid in Court against the black Students involved in the Anderson affair. Let us reiterate that the black Community has always supported, and continues to support, the just cause of the Students.

We agreed to attend this meeting in good faith, and with the understanding that any and all questions concerning the relationship between the black Community and the University, can be raised and explored on a principled basis. We find it necessary, therefore, to restate the position which black Organisations have consistently taken throughout the Anderson affair, viz, that

1. By mishandling the racism charges brought against professor Anderson by the black Students, by being insensitive to their just demands, disrespectful towards their manhood and dignity, and by causing a breakdown in communication

between themselves and the Students, the University Administration had instigated the Crisis of February 11th.

2. The University should sanction a public enquiry into the Anderson affair to fully determine the Causes leading up to the February 11th Crisis.

Since the sponsors of this meeting have suggested no agenda, we believe that as representatives of our Organisations, we should propose discussions on the following topics:

- a) Channels of Communications between the various sections of the University ~~Committee~~ community.
- b) Whether there exists a quota restrictions on the number of qualified West Indians to be admitted to undergraduate standing at the University.
- c) The Academic standing of all Students involved in the February 11th Crisis.
- d) Immigration and Employment problems encountered by the Students involved.
- e) University intervention in matters involving employment and housing discrimination encountered by undergraduate or graduate Students at Sir George because of Colour or National origin.
- (f) Unrestricted use of all student facilities at the University to black and Caribbean Sir George Students.
- (g) Creation of a Black Studies programme with accredited Courses.